

Superior Court of Clark County



SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF  
WASHINGTON  
FOR CLARK COUNTY

GENERAL ORDER 21-05

**UPDATED MASK REQUIREMENTS FOR  
CLARK COUNTY COURTHOUSE,  
JUVENILE COURTHOUSE, AND  
FAMILY LAW ANNEX**

---

Adopted: August 9, 2021

Effective: August 16, 2021

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2021 Washington state reopened under the Washington Ready Plan and all industry sectors previously covered by Governor Inslee's Roadmap to Recovery or the Safe Start Plan returned to usual capacity and operations.

WHEREAS, the industry specific guidance for courts previously issued by the Washington Department of Health expired on June 30, 2021.

WHEREAS, this Court previously issued multiple Emergency General Orders including most recently 21-03 and 21-04 to respond to the state of emergency and mitigate the effect of COVID-19.

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control recently added a recommendation for fully vaccinated people to wear a mask in public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high transmission.

WHEREAS, the Washington Department of Health masking order, effective June 26, 2020 and updated in May, 2021, requires individuals who are not fully vaccinated to wear a mask in public indoor settings. Because of increased disease transmission in Washington, the

**GENERAL ORDER 21-05  
UPDATED MASK REQUIREMENTS FOR CLARK  
COUNTY COURTHOUSE, JUVENILE  
COURTHOUSE, AND FAMILY LAW ANNEX**  
Page 1 of 2

CLARK COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT  
1200 FRANKLIN STREET  
VANCOUVER, WA 98660

## Superior Court of Clark County

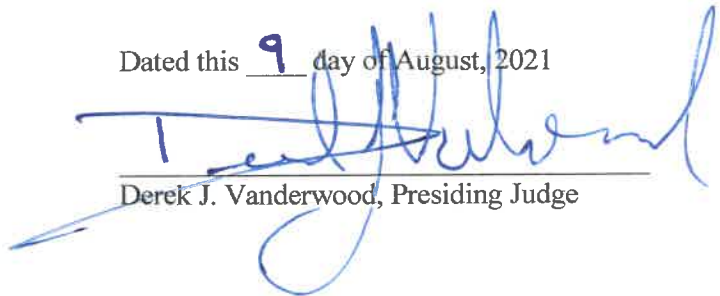
Department of Health is currently recommending that fully vaccinated people consider wearing a mask in public indoor settings.

Whereas, given increasing virus activity and new information about the highly infectious delta variant, Clark County Public Health is recommending everyone, regardless of vaccination status, wear a face covering in indoor public settings.

Effective Monday, August 16, 2021 General Order 21-03 Clark County Superior Court Revised COVID-19 Mitigation Order is modified and the actions set forth herein will take effect and will remain in effect until further order of the Court. Any provisions of General Order 21-03 not specifically addressed in this General Order remain in full effect.

1. All individuals entering and remaining in public areas of the Clark County Courthouse, Juvenile Courthouse or the Family Law Annex shall be required to wear a mask at all times unless otherwise exempted under paragraph 3 below. Any individual refusing to wear a mask shall be refused entry by Courthouse Security staff. Courthouse Security staff may also remove any individual ordered from the building for improper removal of a mask and/or failure to wear a mask.
2. During a court proceeding, the presiding judicial officer may direct an individual who is an active participant in the proceedings to remove a mask, based upon a finding that removal is necessary to facilitate clear communication on the record or to promote due process. For public safety reasons, removal shall be limited in scope and duration. "Active participant" may include the judge, court staff, an interpreter, a party, attorney for a party and a witness.
3. The following individuals do not need to wear a mask:
  - b) Any child under the age of 2;
  - c) Any individual who has a physical disability that prevents easily wearing or removing a face covering;
  - d) Any individual who is deaf and uses facial and mouth movements as part of communication or an individual who is communicating with a person who is deaf and uses facial and mouth movements as part of communication;
  - e) Any individual who has been advised by a medical professional that wearing a face covering may pose a risk to that individual for health-related reasons; and
  - f) Any individual who has trouble breathing or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance.

Dated this 9 day of August, 2021

  
Derek J. Vanderwood, Presiding Judge